(c) The High Level Task Force has presented the report on 29.12.2008.

The Task Force has strongly recommended the need for "Affordable Housing" and mentioned that delay in addressing the affordable housing problem would seriously affect India's economic growth and poverty reduction strategies. The Task Force notes that housing is central to economic growth and has multiplier effects on employment, poverty reduction etc. The Task Force estimates that alleviating the urban housing shortage could potentially raise the rate of growth of GDP and have a decisive impact on improving the basic quality of life.

The major recommendations of the Task Force are :-

(i.) 'Affordable Housing' be put at the centre of public policy.

(ii) Government may undertake a separate exercise to estimate the number of households in need of affordable housing. The Task Force visualizes the size of the household as five members.

(iii.) Upward revision in the FAR/FSI, across cities of different sizes commensurate with investment in infrastructure that it will necessitate.

(iv.) *In-situ* development on public lands for addressing affordable housing issues in partnership with the Government.

(v.) 'Security of tenure' be recognized as an important and integral tool for relieving pressures on the housing market. This may be undertaken through regularisation of settlements, community or cooperative ownership, security *via* lease, use rights, which enables *in-situ* development to take place.

(vi.) The recommendations on land related issue *i.e.* bringing in additional lands, upward revision in the FAR/FSI and *in-situ* development have to be implemented in an integrated manner.

(vii.) Role of State Housing Boards be revamped and the Boards be encouraged to focus on playing a more active role in the provision of affordable housing, even if is through public private partnerships.

(viii.) Bring 'affordable housing' under the infrastructure definition.

(d) Does not arise.

IHSDP and BSUP

3557. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider public-private partnership model for implementing the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) and Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP); and

(b) whether Government would come out with a national programme for development of integrated satellite towns to ease the housing problem in view of the paucity of Government lands in metropolitan cities for housing development?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Under the Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP) and the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) Components of the Jawaharlal Nethru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), one of the reforms to be implemented is public-private partnership. It is upto the State Government to put up project proposals under public-private partnership model under BSUP and IHSDP.

(b) The housing shortages are being addressed through the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) Components (i) BSUP covering 65 select cities and (ii) IHSDP for other cities/towns including the satellite towns. The scheme for affordable Housing in Partnership is also aimed at easing the housing shortages in towns and cities across the country. The new scheme of Rajiv Awas Yojana is proposed to be launched for slum dwellers and the urban poor. Rajiv Awas Yojana would extend support to States that are willing to assign property rights to people living in slum areas. The Government's effort would be to create a slum free India through the Rajiv Awas Yojana in the next five years.

Slum Free India

3558. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed to make our country slum free over the next five years;

(b) whether any study has been conducted to assess the extent of the slums to be cleared;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how many dwelling units are sought to be built and the amount of money proposed to be spent for the purpose over the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The Government has decided to launch a new scheme called Rajiv Awas Yojana for slum dwellers and the urban poor. Rajiv Awas Yojana would extend support to States that are willing to assign property rights to people living in slum areas. The Government's efforts would be to create a slum free India through the Rajiv Awas Yojana in the next five years.

(b) and (c) Urban Development/slum being a State subject, it is upto the concerned States/UTs to assess the slums to be upgraded in their respective States. However, for purpose of planning, the slum population figures derived from the Census 2001 are used to make projections.

(d) The number of dwelling units and the amount likely to be spent under Rajiv Awas Yojana in coming years will depend upon the parameters of the scheme and State specific plans.